The updated India-Bhuttan Friendship Treaty reflects the contemporary nature of India-Bhutan relations and lays the firm foundation for their future development in the 21st century. The Treaty will enable the further intensification of our historically close, special and mutually beneficial relations in areas such as trade and economic cooperation, hydropower, human resource development, cultural and people-to-people exchanges. The Treaty contains fresh provisions for consolidating and expanding our relations in these areas.

Agenda of joint anti-terror meeting

2608. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI MAHMOOD A. MADANI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the agenda of the recent joint Indo-Pak anti-terrorism meeting;

(b) whether India shared the evidence of recent terrorist attacks involving cross border elements;

(c) if so, the response of Pakistani side;

(d) whether the issue of recent blast in Samjhauta Express was raised with Pakistani side;

. (e) if so, the response thereto; and

(f) whether Government have assessed the propects of such a mechanism in view of response of Pakistan on the evidences provided to it by India?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (f) During the Prime Minister's meeting with President Musharraf of Pakistan in Havana on 16 September, 2006, it was decided to put in place an India-Pakistan anti-terrorism institutional mechanism to identify and implement counter-terrorism intiatives and investigations. The first meeting of Joint Anti-terrorism Mechanism took place on 6-7 March, 2007 in Islamabad. At this meeting, both sides agreed that specific information would be exchanged through the mechanism for helping investigations on either side related to terrorist acts and prevention of violence and terrorist acts in the two countries. It was also agreed that

while the Anti-terrorism Mechanism would meet on a quarterly basis, any information which is required to be conveyed on priority basis would be immediately conveyed through the respective heads of the mechanism. Information has been shared with Pakistan on specific terrorist incidents in India

Peace and security Initiatives with Pakistan

2609. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:
SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Pakistan worked out a six-point agenda to carry forward peace and security initiatives and decided to ensure the implementation of confidence-building measures related to Jammu and Kashmir

(b) if so, whether the fourth round of composite dialogue between India and Pakistan agreed on a number of Issues to be undertaken seriously; and

(c) if so, to what extent talks so far held between the two countries have proved to be successful?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c) The Foreign Secretaries of India and Pakistan met in IsIamaoad on 13-14 March 2007 to initiate4th round of the Composite Dialogue. They discussed Place and Security including CBMs and Jammu & Kashmir. On Peace and Security, they decided to expedite negotiations to conclude an Agreement on Prevention of incidents at Sea, to fully observe the ceasefire, to conclude and sign an Agreement on Modalities for the Conduct of Quarterly Flag meetings at the sectors to be agreed upon, to conclude and sign a framework agreement on Speedly Retrun of Inadvertent Line Crosses, to conclude an agreement on No Development of New Posts and Defence Works along the LOG and propose drafts for new border control guidelines along the International Border. On Nuclear CBMs the two sides decided to hold discussions on security doctraines. On jammu and Kashmir both sides agreed to ensure implementation of the already agreed Jammu and Kashmir related CBMs, to ensure operationalisation of truck service and to ensure operationalisatlon/rationalisation of the five Grossing points. On Siacnsn, they agreed that the Defence Secreataries of the two countries assisted by respective Directors General (Military